

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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A1

1. A method of selecting a format for displaying video image information received in a signal including conditional access information, said method comprising the steps of :
- 5 a) receiving said signal including video image information and conditional access information associated with one of a plurality of picture resolution formats;
- 10 b) decoding said conditional access information in the received signal;
- c) adaptively selecting a picture resolution format in response to said decoded conditional access information; and
- d) processing said video image information using said selected picture resolution format.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein selection of said picture resolution format is in response to said decoded conditional access information determining user entitlement to select one of said plurality of available picture resolution formats.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said picture resolution format is one of:
- 20 i) a standard definition format; and
- ii) a high definition format.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of recording said video image information in said selected picture resolution format on a recording medium.
- 25 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of reproducing said recorded video image information in said selected picture resolution format on a display.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said video image information of said received signal is transmitted as a digital signal on a first channel.
- 30 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of receiving ancillary data transmitted on a second channel for controlling processing of said video image data.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said ancillary data is transmitted as an analog
- 35 video signal.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of picture resolution formats is associated with a respective billing rate and further comprising the step of billing a

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user at the billing rate associated with a selected one of said plurality of picture resolution formats.

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10. A method of selecting a format for displaying video image information received in a signal including copy protection information, said method comprising the steps of:
- a) receiving said signal including video image information and copy protection information associated with one of a plurality of display formats;
 - b) decoding said copy protection information in the received signal;
 - c) adaptively selecting a format for displaying said video image information on a display in response to said decoded copy protection information; and
 - d) processing said video image information using said selected display format.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein selection of said display format is in response to said decoded copy protection information determining user entitlement to select one of said plurality of available display formats.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said display format is one of:

- i) a standard definition format; and
- ii) a high definition format.

13. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of recording said video image information in a format determined by said decoded copy protection information on a recording medium.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of reproducing said recorded video image information in said format determined by said decoded copy protection information on a display.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein said video image information of said received signal is transmitted as a digital signal on a first channel.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of receiving ancillary data transmitted on a second channel for controlling processing of said video image data.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said ancillary data is transmitted as an analog video signal.

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23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of reproducing said recorded video image information in said selected recording format on a display.

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35 decoded

26. The method of claim 19, wherein said video image information of said received signal is transmitted as a digital signal on a first channel.

27. The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of receiving ancillary data
5 transmitted on a second channel for controlling processing of said video image data.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein said ancillary data is transmitted as an analog video signal.

10 *Sub B7* 29. The method of claim 19, wherein each of said plurality of recording formats is associated with a respective billing rate and further comprising the step of billing a user at the billing rate associated with a selected one of said plurality of recording formats.

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